Nippon Times

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STRIFE IN DAMASCUS AS FRENCH OPEN FIRE

Domei

LISBON, May 30.—Shooting continued today in various parts of Damascus and the situation is generally regarded as serious, a Reuters report from Damascus said.

A statement issued by the Syrian and Lebanese Legations in London said the French bombarded the city of Damascus last night. The bombardment ceased on intervention of the British Minister, but the firing continues, the statement said.

Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden declared tonight that the position in Syria had greatly deteriorated. There has been considerable shelling of Damascus by French artillery with serious loss of life and property, he said.

In Washington, meanwhile, the White House today denied reports that President Truman has been invited to mediate in the dispute between France and Lebanon and Syria.

Domei

LISBON, May 30.—The Iran Government has requested the evacuation of British, American and Soviet troops in Iran now that hostilities in Europe have ceased, a Teheran report said today.

Special

LISBON, May 29 — Syria today prepared for the Arab League meeting on Monday which will discuss Levant dispute with France, a Damascus report said. Syrian Prime Minister received British and American representatives today.

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7 FLAG OFFICERS KILLED

Seven flag officers have been killed in action in the current war, it was announced by the Yokosuka Naval Station on May 31. They are Vice Admiral Tadami Saka, Vice Admiral Mikio Hayakawa, Rear Admiral Toshihrru Ozaki, Rear Admiral Yoshio Inoue, Rear Admiral Kazumiki Okano, and Rear Admiral Toshihiko Odawara.

CHURCHILL BARES CASUALTIES

Domei

STOCKHOLM, May 29.—Prime Minister Churchill revealed today in Commons that total casualties suffered by the armed forces of the British commonwealth and empire from September 3,1939 to end of February, 1945, were 1,128,315 of which 307,201 were dead, according to a London dispatch. He said that German bombardment had resulted in 60,585 killed and 86,175 injured. Slightly injured numbered over 150,000.

DAVIS SEES SOVIET ENVOY

Special

LISBON, May 30.—After three days in which Joseph Davis, President Truman's special envoy, has had long conversations with Prime Minister Churchill and Foreign Secretary Eden, he went today with John Winant, American Ambasador in London, to see the Soviet Ambassador, according to a London dispatch.

Early War End Seen Impossible

Domei

LISBON, May 30. — Alexander Vandegrift, Commander of the U.S. Marine Corps in recognizing the huge obstacles now confronting the American army in the war against Japan recently declared that there was absolutely no possibility of ending the war quickly.

He stated that the Japanese Army and Navy were working as a harmonious whole and by actual experiences up to the present, the fact that Japan might surrender was an undreamed of thing, no matter in what hopeless circumstances she might fall into.

In warning he said, "The greatest landing operations in war annals are yet to come. Let us meet the inestimably grim Japanese resistance no matter where the American army may land."

Domei

LISBON, May 30.—Despite huge fires that razed "industrial sections" of Tokyo, Nagoya and other Japanese cities, a large portion of Japan's war industry still is intact, Leo Crowley, U.S. Foreign Economic Administrator, made public in Washington Saturday, according to a report from the city.

Crowley emphasized that Japan's industry dispersal program has lately been accelerated so that many big plants have beens etablished in secluded areas and that still others have been placed underground. A considerable part of Japan's war industry is located in regions which heve not yet been heavily bombed, he said.

He pointed out that Manchuria, Korea and occupied China were big producers. In short, Crowley emphasized, "Japan's present productive capacity is sufficient for a long and tough war."

MACHINE INDUSTRY PUSHED BY JAPAN

Continud from Yesterday

It goes without saying that the War of Greater East Asia is bound to stimulate this tendency for rapid progress still further. The glorious victories Japan has scored on all fronts since the outbreak of the war have brought in their train illimitable natural resources for increasing its fighting strength all the more. Japan, which had been reputed as a "have not," nation has become a nation of abundance overnight. There is no need to expound the spiritual strength of Japanese industrialists here at length. Suffice it to say that the Japanese people, who are the incarnation of Japanese national spirit, live in keeping with the tradition of Bushido.

Animated with this national spirit and tradition, they are making great efforts to increase production. They hear in the sounds of their sledge hammers a song of righteousness—of setting one billion of Asiatics free. The humming of the electric motor bespeaks their determination to crush the rapacious British and the insolent Americans.

The Voice of Warning

The voice of warning against the strength of the Japanese nation has been growing increasingly louder among the peoples of the enemy Powers. The reason for this is not far to seek. Under the guidance of the Government, the Army and the Navy, the machine tool manufacturers have been engaged in the manufacture of different kinds of machine tools allotted to them according to a most definite and rational program. They make constant efforts to maintain able operatives to the full capacity of their workshops and to improve their technical skill and equipment. As the result of these efforts, they have been able to speedily produce machine tools which are far above the level of those of other nations in quality and in large numbers and have been supplying the factories of the key industries designated by the Government with their products.

As stated at the very outset of this article, modern war is hectic and consumes an enormous amount of with the War of Greater East Asia because it is being fought over vast areas both on land and sea. The speedy transportation of large numbers of war weapons which are equipped with motive power is absoluetly necessary under the circumstances. What is more, it is necessary for Japan to maintain the arms and ammunition which are distinctly superior in their efficiency to those of our enemies.

With the development of the war situation, it is also necessary for Japan to invent new arms to cope with the enemies. In the face of this situation, Japanese manufacturers with all their excellent technical skill, spiritual vitality and admirable composure of mind have been producing an increasing quantity to satisfy the demands of the Army and the Navy and at the same time making efforts to invent new arms.

As a result of these efforts, the production of arms and ammunition has been increasing by leaps and bounds since the outbreak of the China Affair, particularly the war of Greater East Asia. The quantity now being produced in Japan is really staggering. The writer regrets that he is not at liberty to reveal the figures in this connection, but the fact that Japan has been working on the necessary natural resources in the vast areas of its military operation for the manufacture of arms and ammunition and thus increasing the fighting strength without causing any worry to the people for the future is evidence in itself that the nation is producing a tremendous amount to meet military demands.

BIG 3 MEET UNAFFECTED

Domei

STOCKHOLM, May 26.—Prime Minister Churchill said today at Woodford, Essexshire, that he had promised President Truman that the British elections would in no way cause a postponement of the projected conference of the heads of governments of the United States Britain and the Soviet Union.

SHINBU PLANES SINK, DAMAGE 21 WARSHIPS

Domei

FRONT AIRBASE, May 30.—Six U.S. warships of unidentified categories were instantaneously sunk and 15 others heavily damaged when units of the Shinbu Special Attack Corps in cooperation with a Navy Torpedo Bomber Unit attacked, on May 27 and 28, a fleet of enemy war vessels in the Nakagusuku Bay which were trying to supply materials to troops on the main Okinawa Island. In addition, several pillars of flames were witnessed in the same battle area by Japanese Fighter Plane Units which escorted the Special Attack Corps.

Domei

LISBON, May 29.—Admiral Chester Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, minimizing losses in the Okinawa sea area today announced that from the night of May 28, one small type warship had been sunk and 12 battleships of the U.S. Pacific fleet lost due to continuous Japanese air attacks, according to a Guam dispatch.

CAN'T REPAIR WARSHIPS

Domei

LISBON, MAY 30—Increasing concern was made public today by United States naval authorities over the inadequacy of the Pacific coast shipyards to cope with the repair work on damaged ships returning from the Japanese war and simultaneously an urgent appeal was made to skilled workers—who are leaving their jobs in increasing numbers—to remain where they are, according to a Washington dispatch.

James Forrestal, Navy Secretary made the appeal, but for security reasons refused to give full details of the considerable damage caused by the Japanese.

FOREIGN OFFICE MOVED

The Foreign Office, the greater part of whose buildings were destroyed by fire in the recent air raid, temporarily moved to the Finance Ministry building, where the Office's business have been handled since. Commencing today, June 1, the Foreign Office will make the fourth floor of the Education Ministry its regular office. The removal of important documents at the time of the air raid was carried out swiftly.

FIGHTING IN TRIESTE

Domei

ZURICH, May 30—Unconfirmed reports from Trieste said that serious fighting has broken out between Italian partisans and members of Marshal Tito's forces in Fiume.

Special

LISBON, May 29—Confirmed report from Rome said British and American officers of the Allied military government left Trieste "to avoid any possibility of incidents with the Yugoslav authorities who are in power in the city."

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